

There were many varieties of building stone. Red sandstone was quarried from mountain ledges in the Lake Creek region by John Crook and William Forman. This stone was extensively used for homes and public buildings. The Stake tabernacle and County Courthouse were built of this material.

John Watkins of Midway was one of the most enterprising builders in the valley. Since he was from England, much of his building had characteristic English styling. He found a bed of white sandstone, from which he and his sons cut and sawed blocks for use in homes as corners, steps, and pillars. He also made hand pressed, sun-dried brick, and operated a lime kiln. There are many beautiful examples of his work in the valley today.¹

A good supply of white marble was found in the Snake Creek region; and although it proved too soft to form a basis for permanent industry, it was utilized by the pioneers for tomb stones.

Pot rock, the porous limestone which covered much of the western side of the valley, found extensive application in building homes, fences, and public buildings.

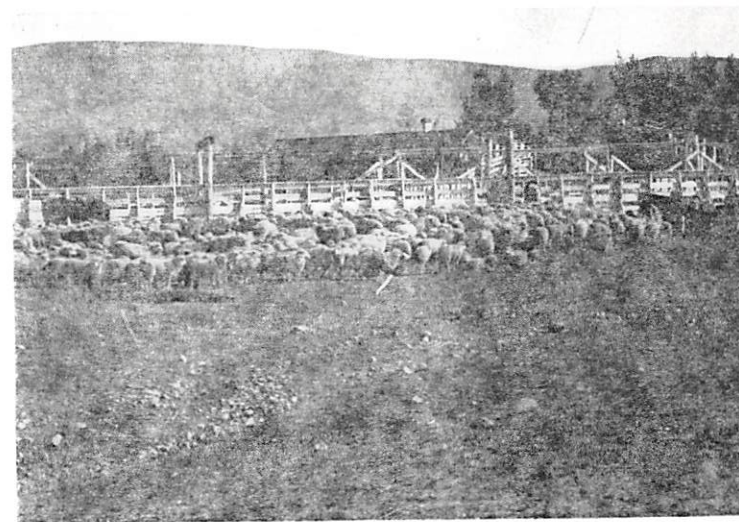
These pioneer industries served only until Wasatch County was effectively linked with larger Utah commercial centers by railroad and highway. Other industries that achieved permanent status were cattle raising, lumbering, and mining. It is these industries that contribute the greater part of the county's wealth and to which we must next turn our attention.

SHEEP AND CATTLE

Provo Valley in 1858 was the scene of ranch building and cattle grazing. An abundance of grass grew

¹Mary A. Shaer, *A Brief History of the Pioneer John Watkins*, (Heber City, 1934), p. 69.

along the river banks and made an ideal grazing situation. Indeed, men like William Wall, Aaron Daniels, William Meeks, George Bean, and others felt the valley should be

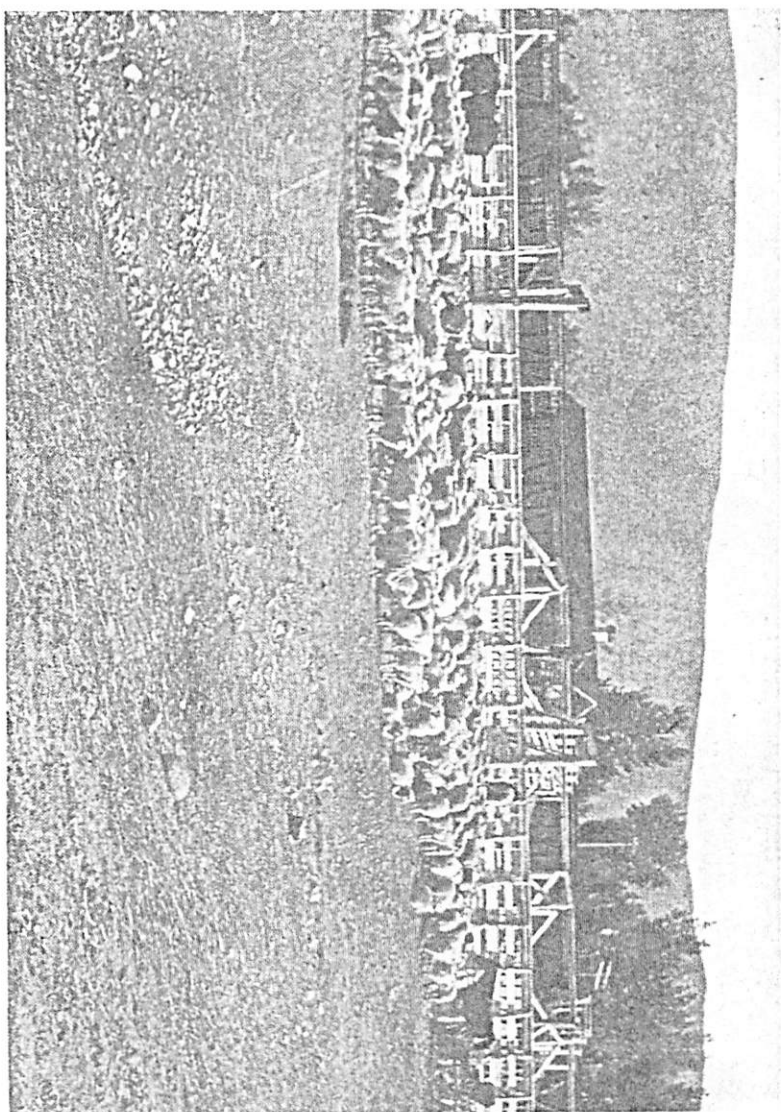


Sheep industry

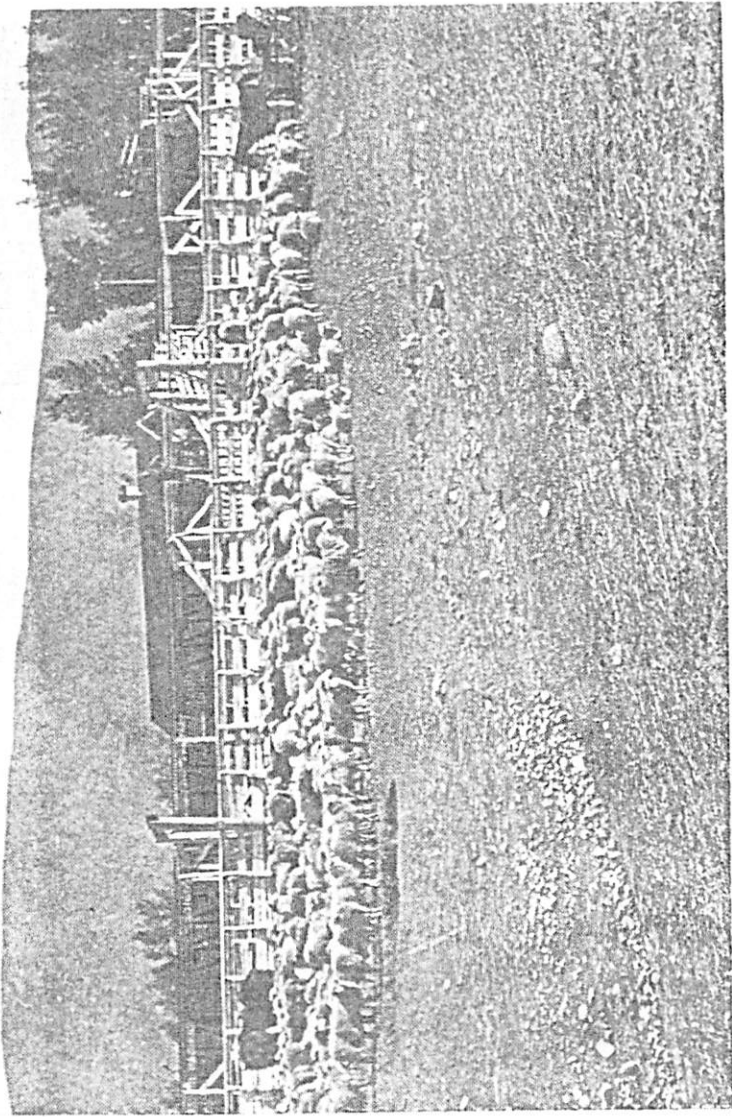
set aside exclusively for cattle raising and lumbering. Most of the later settlers were interested in tilling the soil, but they too took advantage of the rich grazing lands, and nearly all had a few sheep and cattle.

Raising sheep on a large scale began with the cooperative sheep herd organized by John M. Murdock in 1861. He was born in Grasswater, Anchimleck, Ayrshire, Scotland, on December 28, 1821. Much of his early life was spent as a shepherd boy. Later, while working in the coal mines, he became a convert to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In 1852

²Crook, "History of Wasatch County," *op. cit.*, p. 4.



Sheep industry



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